Chapter 13 | The Form of a Fake

EVEN THOUGH I SAY THAT, I MEAN PRETENDING THOUGH
WHICH MEANS?
Hm?
"Then, do you want to date me?"
I THOUGH YOU WERE GOING TO EAT SOME OF OUR CUST -OMERS ALIVE
REALLY?
THAT BAD?
AND SAKURAI, YOU'RE A DANGER TO YOURSELF RIGHT NOW...
RIGHT NOW, REITA'S GETTING TOO EXCITED, ISN'T HE?
Like you're doing with Reita
OH, SO THAT'S WHAT HE MEANS.
...

SO,
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
THAT'S WHY, IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE UNABLE TO CONTROL THIS SITUATION AND DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO,
THEN YOU CAN USE ME UNTIL YOU CALM DOWN.
WELL, THAT STILL IF YUUSUKE ACTUALLY LIKED ME SO I'M PRETTY SURPRISED.
THAT SURPRISED ME...
Rather I was kinda freaking out

P—
PLEASE WORK WITH ME!
Well, there's a lot involved but...

Since I've already decided,
?
I'm really sorry. Sorry.
but you should probably wash your face
Probably a heavy drunk.
...pfft
Ehhh
Well it's fine
WHO OSH
I'm going to show you running away!!

SFX: WHOOSH
WHAT DID YOU NEED TO TALK ABOUT?
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
WELL, WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS ...
WHO OOO OOO OOSH

What I need to talk to you about is...

IF IT'S HERE, THEN IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, I FIGURED I COULD GET AWAY.

FIGHT! OH! FIGHT!

WHY DID YOU CALL ME OUT HERE...

THAT'S NOT IT!

Jogging

I'M DATING YUUSUKE.

?

Did I just hear some thing?

bonk

DO Ng

THEN, IS THE ONE YOU LIKE YUUSUKE?
AND SO THAT'S WHY YOU'RE DATING?
Y-
YEAH.
.....
YOU JUST WENT OFF AND MISUNDER-STOOD
THAT WAS
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU AND ATSUSHI?
DIDN'T YOU LIKE HIM?
HOW WILL HE REACT?
.....
.....
DENIAL?!
YOU RE LYING.
Completely conceited.
HEY, MAKOTO
ALREADY DECIDED
ME.
LIKES
MAKOTO
WHY CAN YOU
BECAUSE
WITH NO BASIS.

IS SOME -THING LIKE THAT THE REASON?
THAT YOU CAN'T ACCEPT ME OR SOME -THING,
!
REASON....
"I don't want to lose you."
.....
sigh

IF YOU'RE GOING SO FAR AS TO SAY THAT, THEN ..
...
I GOT IT.
!
THEN THIS TIME, YOU'RE FINALLY ACCEPTING IT...
FINE THEN. I'LL WAIT.
POINTS
?!

UNTIL YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU LIKE ME,
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'LL WAIT FOR YOU.
EHH?!

IT'S BEEN A YEAR SINCE THEN
NO, NO.
THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL'S COMING UP SOON ISN'T IT?
Hurry up!
YEAH.
Over there and over here
IT WENT BY FAST, HUH?
That and this too
....
THAT'S BECAUSE NOT MUCH TIME HAS PASSED
IT WAS ONLY LAST WEEK
Yeah,
In reality, it's only been a week since that happ -ened.
.....

The criticism wasn't as bad as I feared it'd be.

ABIKO, HAVE YOU SEEN KIKUCHI?

The rumor that I broke up with Reita and began dating Yuusuke quickly spread.

It's Abiko and Sakurai

I heard they're dating

THAT'S BECA USE I'M PRETTY SKILLED AT THIS

YUUSUKE, YOU'RE GOOD AT THIS

ALSO, ABIKO YOU'RE GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPENING PARTY, RIGHT?

WHEN YOU'RE NOT THERE, IT'S ALWAYS HAVOC.

WHAT'S WITH THAT

But in reality,

THAT GUY DISAP -PEARED WITHOUT DOING HIS DUTIES

SAKURAI, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING?

NOPE.

I don't know

No,

HE WAS HERE UNTIL WE FINISHED CLEAN -ING THOUGH

YUUSUKE PROBABLY HEARD A LOT MORE.

THE OTHER DAY WHEN HODA WAS ALL MESSED UP

ABIKO YOU CARRIED HIM PRINCESS -STYLE!

THAT'S BECA -USE I WAS MADE TO ♪

SINCE THEN, BEING WITH REITA HAS BEEN...

WELL, NORMAL.

Later!

SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU GUYS!

Let me know if you see Kikuchi.

WELL, I WAS THE ONE THAT ASKED HIM TO THOUGH....

AFTER THAT, HE DID COME TO SAY WHAT HE NEEDED TO.

ARE YOU NOT GOING TO ASK ANY-THING?
THE PROBLEM ISN'T WITH YUU-SUKE.
SO,
SINCE THEN, HE'S BEEN ACTING NOR-MAL
He even talks to me.
HE DOESN'T PAY ATTENTION TO HIS SURROUNDINGS EITHER, SO IT'S BEEN LIKE ALWAYS

That's true.

BUT WHETHER HE'S DOING IT UNINTENTIONALLY OR NOT, I DON'T KNOW.

THE REASON WHY EVERYONE AROUND US HAS BEEN KIND IS

BECAUSE REITA HAS BEEN ACTING THE SAME AS ALWAYS.....

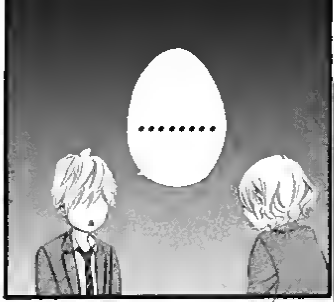
EH?!

THEN YOU DIDN'T ASK ABIKO-KUN ANYTHING?!

.....

YOU DIDN'T EVEN SAY ONE OR TWO COMPLAINTS!?

...WELL, AT THAT TIME, I WASN'T ABLE TO SPEAK TOO WELL EITHER.
IT'S PRIMARILY THAT!!
You poor speaker!!
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT THE MAIN PROBLEM LIES WITH MA-KOTO THOUGH...
THAT'S RIGHT.
RIGHT NOW. THE IMPORTANT ONE ISN'T YUU-SUKE. BUT MAKOTO.
WHAT'S NECESSARY IS HOW TO MAKE HER REALIZE HER
ROMANTIC LOVE FOR ME!!
WOW. NO EMBARRASSMENT WHAT-SOEVER.
ALTHOUGH MAKOTO TOLD ME THAT THIS TIME IS ALSO JUST AN ACT,
BUT LOOKING AT IT FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, THEY'RE BOTH TO BLAME.
Those two.
BUT, ARE YOU OKAY? WITH MAKOTO DATING SOMEONE ELSE?
NORMAL.

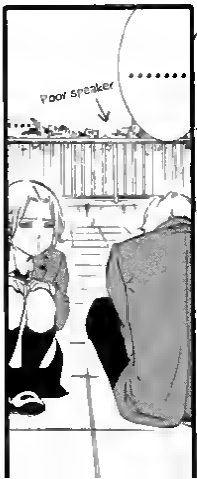


I'm Kita High's Ace, you know! The Ace!

Y-YOU!!

WHY DID YOU SAY THAT?!

LOOK AT REALITY!



OR RATHER, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT

YUUSUKE...DOESN'T ACT ON HALF-HEARTED FEELINGS, SO I CAN BELIEVE IN THAT-

SO,

I GUESS IT CAN'T BE FOR SURE THOUGH

JURI, I MIGHT BE A GENIUS...
?
LIKE SOMEONE'S FAMILY DOING THE SAME THING.
!!
MAKOTO!
IN ANY CASE. RIGHT NOW IS THAT!
I need to do something about this!
DO YOU GIVE UP NOW?
AS EXPE-CTED OF ME.
I'VE GOT IT! AN INVIN-CIBLE PLAN!!
WATCH OUT, MAKOTO!
ding
dong

.....

EH?

OF COURSE, FRIEND!

THIS PART OF HER IS SIMILAR TO REITA.

Her suspicious behavior

I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE OF THE SET -TING.....

IS JUST TO THE TRAIN STATION OKAY TODAY, TOO?

I END UP IN AN UNNATURAL POSE.

I'M STILL NOT USED TO IT.

Even though I've gone home with him with Reita several times before,

HM?
UMM...
THIS IS HARD FOR ME TO ASK YOU,
BUT SHOULD WE GO SOME -WHERE TOGE -THER SOME -TIME?
AH!
I MEANT AN ACT... AS AN ACT THOUGH!
REALLY?
YEAH.
THAT'S BECAUSE REITA'S KINDA COR RATHER COMP -LETELY SUSP! -CIOUS...
BUT ARE YOU OKAY WITH IT, SAKURA!?
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WELL, I'M FINE WITH IT THOUGH.

YUUSUKE, DON'T YOU HAVE SOME-ONE YOU LIKE?

IS IT OKAY FOR YOU TO BE DOING SOMETHING LIKE THIS?

NO, BECAUSE ...

AH!

COULD IT BE?! WAIT A SECOND!

THEN THAT'S GOO-

IF I DID, THEN OF COURSE I COULDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

NO, IT'S NOT!

AH...

FOR ME TO ONLY REALIZE THAT NOW, I'M REALLY NOT ACTING LIKE MYSELF

SORRY

YOU'RE BEING TOO HARD ON YOURSELF

BUT...

SAKURAI

.....

THANKS WELL THEN, I'M LEAVING HERE.

駅 [北口]

WHAT ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY FROM, SAKURAI?
I'M HOME.
WELCOME HOME! ONII-CHAN!
STEP STEP

HEY, HEY, CAN I EAT THE PAPICO ICE CREAM IN THE FRIDGE?
Hehe
IS WHAT YOU SAID, BUT YOU ALREADY ATE IT, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU WIN!
MY portion

SAKI.

Pat
HEY, ARE YOU UPSET?
THANKS, SORRY?
I'M NOT MAD.
Just a little disappointed

ONII-CHAN.

He's actually very disappointed
I LOVE YOU, YUU-NII
tap tap tap tap
YUUSUKE, YOU'RE HOME?
MY PAP-ICO...

ASKING AROUND ALUMNI FOR HELP DURING HIS BREAKS...
AND IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S THINKING OF GETTING A JOB OVER HERE...
EH?
OH YEAH. IT SEEMS MOMO'S COMING HOME FOR NEW YEAR'S THIS YEAR.
Opens
SO YOU MIGHT MEET HIM OVER THERE DURING THE BREAK.
THOUGH I'M, YOU KNOW.
Ah... My Papico's safe.
I HEARD THAT MOMO'S AUNT HAS BEEN TALKING AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
OR RATHER, JUNIOR COLLEGE'S DOING THAT NOW TOO AROUND NOW.

RUNNING AWAY.
RUNNING AWAY...
I'M RUNNING AWAY FROM REITA, RIGHT?

LIKE?
I LIKE REITA?
"Makoto likes me."
"Acknowledge that you like me."
MY FEELINGS ARE?
COULD IT BE...
Haaa Haaa
CALM DOWN IT'LL BE OKAY.
I'M THE ONE THAT DID IT.
I WENT BACK TO JUST BEING CHILDHOOD FRIENDS WITH REITA.
I'M BACK ...
WAAAH!!
shock

WELCOME HOME.
!!
WHY?!
KOUKO HASN'T COME BACK YET
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR KAEDE-SAN, SHE WENT OUT SHOP -PING

LISTEN, AND DON'T BE AMAZED.
SMIRK
WHY ARE YOU IN MY HOUSE SIPPING ON GREEN TEA?!
FROM TODAY FORWARD, I'M GOING TO BE A CHILD OF THIS HOUSE!
HAAH?

YOU SAID THAT I'M LIKE FAMILY TO YOU, RIGHT?
WHAT KIND OF STUPID-
I'M HOME-
Closes
MAKOTO, ARE YOU HOME?
YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO CHANGE THAT, RIGHT?
STEP
STEP
STEP
REITA -KUN?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THIS SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM, RIGHT?
KNOCK

EH?
No one's here
BUT YOU SAID THE OTHER DAY THAT YOU UNDER-STOOD THAT YUU-SUKE AND I ARE DATING...
THAT'S WHY I WON'T HOLD BACK.
UP UNTIL NOW, IN ANY CASE, I'VE BEEN TAKING CONSIDERATION OF YOUR FEELINGS AS IF YOU WERE MY GIRL-FRIEND, BUT...

I'M GOING TO START ATTACKING FROM NOW ON.
I'M DEFINITELY GOING TO MAKE YOU REALIZE THAT YOU LIKE ME.
You're kidding, right?

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